

February 10, 2022 – EMPIRE VILLAGE COUNCIL WORK SESSION

The meeting was called to order at the Empire Township Hall and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by President Davis at 7:00 p.m. Upon a roll call, Council members Bacon, Barr, Chase, Davis, Dye, Palmer and Rademacher were present. Clerk Smith was also present.

CHANGES/ADDITIONS TO AGENDA – Agenda items Communications and Dept. Head Reports were removed as none were received.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA - Motion by Barr, support by Chase to approve the agenda as amended. Upon a voice vote, **MOTION PASSED.**

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS – None.

COUNCIL MEMBER/COMMITTEE REPORTS –Bacon and Chase reviewed Personnel Committee minutes. Rademacher reviewed the Water Committee minutes.

OLD BUSINESS

2022-23 BUDGET - Motion by Chase, support by Rademacher to approve the wage increases proposed by the Personnel Committee and detailed in the minutes of their Feb. 9, 2021, meeting. There was discussion of the how raises were computed, who received raises and when. It was noted that there was a percent increase for every position during the last budget year and that three employees also received a \$2/hr. raise in November 2021. Palmer and Dye felt the Zoning Administrator should receive a raise. **ROLL CALL: Ayes: Davis, Chase, Barr. Nays: Palmer, Bacon, Dye, Rademacher. MOTION FAILED.** Motion by Bacon, supported by Barr to approve the proposed increases with the following changes to equal 7.7%: Clerk to \$28,000/yr., Treasurer to \$9,693/year; 11% for Beach Maintenance Worker to \$15.63/hour, and DPW Seasonal Worker to \$16.65/hour. **ROLL CALL: Ayes: Barr, Bacon, Davis, Chase, Rademacher. Nays: Palmer, Dye. MOTION PASSED.** Davis noted that Capital Expenditures for each fund should be reviewed. Tar and chipping of alleys is considered Repair and Maintenance, while a grind and replace is a Capital Improvement. It was noted that each committee had provided a checklist for the items included under Repair and Maintenance. **Motion by Bacon, support by Rademacher to increase 202-000-930 by \$5K to \$9K to include contracted striping of Front St. and the Beach. ROLL CALL: Ayes: Chase, Dye, Bacon, Palmer, Barr, Rademacher. Nays: Davis. MOTION PASSED.** There was discussion of the Water Fund Repair and Maintenance. It was noted that once the General Plan is completed, the budget will likely be amended to include its' recommendations. It was noted that the Public Hearing will be held on February 22nd at 7:00 p.m. and the Regular Meeting will immediately follow.

PUBLIC COMMENT – None.

COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENT – Palmer commented on the distribution of financial reports. She noted that a paper pantry will be held at the United Methodist Church on 4th Thursday of every month.

ADJOURNMENT at 8:05 p.m.

Derith Smith Empire Village Clerk

These minutes were approved at the February 22, 2022 Regular Council meeting.